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years being relatively large in the populous areas of the state, and not so in the less populous counties. This is not going to do anything to stem the population drain nor to reverse it. This is not going to alter the economic conditions in the rural areas. It is not. It is going to give some benefits temporarily to certain businesses that might want to take a chance out there knowing that the state, which means the taxpayers, are going to underwrite it. There is no improvement in wages in this bill. I defy anybody to show me where under the formula in this bill there will be any improvement of wages or even any requirement that wages be improved. They will give you two items, whichever is the greater; this low wage over here or that low wage over there, whichever is the least low is the one that this gouger from the treasury can pay. I'm kind of surprised that some of my rural colleagues are on this bill when in times past they have been concerned about wage levels. As far as the difference in what is paid in these less populous counties and the city of Omaha, I don't need to talk about all of the studies that have been undertaken or just the experience based on anecdotal knowledge that people would have that the cost of living is greater in the more populous counties than in the less populous. That is not going to be altered. If there is a difference in average income of \$8,000 between what is taking place in these rural counties and what is taking place in the urban counties, this bill is not going to...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...change that. The way you change that is to alter the wage structure. You don't change it by giving corporate tax breaks to these people who want to feed at the public trough. If and when a business under this bill goes belly-up, that is not going to improve the economy in that area. If they were producing steel products, you would have rusted out cities like you have in some parts of Pennsylvania, in the Rust Belt. This is not a good bill and it is not based on good policy and I'm going to do a little working with it today.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Matzke, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR MATZKE: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members